

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1.-7. (Cancelled)

Claim 8. (Currently Amended) ~~The process according to Claim 4, wherein~~

A process for storing and updating control unit data, including a program code for the sequence control or characteristic diagram control of at least one control unit of a vehicle, in a memory assigned to the control unit; said process comprising:

a storing or updating system reading the control unit data out of a data carrier; and

the storing or updating system causing control unit data to be stored in the memory assigned to the control unit; wherein

the process is carried out under control of a program-controlled microprocessor; and

the storing or updating system accesses vehicle characterizing data and reads out from a plurality of control unit data stored on the data carrier, control unit data for a vehicle indicated by means of the vehicle characterizing data or for its control units, for storing and/or updating; and

the data carrier has stored therein a storing and/or updating instruction for storing or updating sequence control in said microprocessor.

Claim 9. (Currently Amended) The process according to Claim [[1,]] 8, wherein at least one of the following is true:

the control unit data stored on the data carrier have been encrypted; and

the control unit data have been provided with control data which protect against falsification.

Claim 10. (Original) The process according to Claim 9, wherein a storing or updating system performs at least one of the following:

it decrypts the control unit data read out of the data carrier;

it checks the integrity of control unit data readout of the data carrier;

it causes an updating or replacement of control unit data when the decrypting is correct or when integrity is determined.

Claim 11. (Currently Amended) The process according Claim [[1,]] 8, wherein control unit data stored in a control unit include [[have]] information characterizing their authenticity or version.

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) The process according to Claim [[1,]] 8, wherein the storing and/or updating of the control unit data is carried out only after a corresponding release by an authorization system, the authorization system preferably being under control of a vehicle manufacturer of the corresponding vehicle.

Claim 13. (Currently Amended) The process according to Claim [[1,]] 8, wherein one of a vehicle identification number and data characterizing the control unit data of a corresponding vehicle are stored in a computer data bank.

Claim 14. (Currently Amended) A system for storing and/or updating control unit data, including a program code for sequence control

or characteristic-diagram control of at least one control unit of a motor vehicle, which are stored in a memory assigned to the control unit, said system comprising:

interface means for reading the control unit data out of a data carrier; and

~~means for the storing or updating system~~ a data processor ~~which causes~~ ~~causing~~ control unit data to be stored in the memory assigned to the control unit, wherein, [[.]]

the data processor is coupled in data communication with the interface means for causing it to read selected control unit data from said data carrier and transmit said control unit data to said data processor; and

the data processor is also coupled in data communication with said control unit via a data bus system in said vehicle, and communicates said control unit data to said control unit via said data bus system in accordance with instructions read from said data carrier, for storing and/or updating sequence control in said data processor.

Claim 15. (Currently Amended A computer program product which can be loaded directly into internal memory of a storing or updating

system, including a digital computer, wherein [[it]] said program product has program sections for implementing a process according to Claim [[1,]] 8, when the product is running on the storing or updating system.

Claim 16. (Original) A method of inputting control unit data into a control unit in a vehicle that has an on board system including a reader unit which can read data from a removable data carrier, and a data bus that couples said on board system with said control unit; said method comprising:

said reader unit of said on board system reading the control unit data out of said data carrier;

communicating said control unit data to said control unit via said data bus; and

storing said control unit data in a memory associated with said control unit.

Claim 17. (Original) The method according to Claim 16, wherein said on board system comprises one of a vehicle navigation system, an audio system and a video system.

Claim 18. (Original) The method according to Claim 16, wherein said carrier comprises one of a CD-ROM, a DVD, a compact disk, a holographic data memory, a fixed disk, a solid state memory, a flash memory, a chip card and an EE-PROM.

Claim 19. (Original) The method according to Claim 16, wherein:

said carrier contains control unit data applicable to a plurality of vehicles; and

said reading step is controlled by a microprocessor which reads vehicle characterizing information from a memory, and causes said reader unit to read from said carrier, only control unit data that are applicable to particular vehicle control units.

Claim 20. (Original) The method according to Claim 19, wherein said characterizing information is stored in a memory maintained by a manufacturer of the vehicle.

Claim 21. (New) Apparatus for storing and updating control unit data in a memory associated with a control unit that is coupled into a network of control units in a vehicle, said apparatus comprising:

an interface device for reading control unit data from a transportable and removable memory unit;

a data processor device coupled to communicate with said interface device; and

a high speed data link which couples said control unit with said data processor device and with a plurality of additional control units which collectively form the network of control units in said vehicle;

wherein said data processor device is programmed to cause said interface device to read selected control unit data from a memory unit coupled in communication with said interface device, and to communicate said selected control unit data to said control unit via said high speed data link.

Claim 22. (New) The apparatus according to Claim 21, wherein:

said data processor device is a program controlled microprocessor; and

said microprocessor reads from said memory unit and processes instructions for storing or updating control unit data.

Claim 23. (New) The apparatus according to Claim 22, wherein said instructions comprise a storing or updating sequence control.

Claim 24. (New) The apparatus according to Claim 21, wherein said microprocessor is programmed to read from said memory unit only control data which are designated as applicable to the vehicle.

Claim 25. (New) The system according to Claim 14, wherein:
the data processor comprises a program-controlled microprocessor; and

the data carrier has stored therein a storing and/or updating instruction for storing and/or updating sequence control is said microprocessor.